Resolution Protocol by Finn in view of Mori (5,425,026).

Claims 2, 3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 15, 41—45, 47, 48, and 50—55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 for obviousness over the same references and further in view of Burnett (5,633,869). Claims 1—6, 8—12, 14, 15, and 47—56 were rejected on the same reasoning applied in rejecting claims 40—46.

The rejections have been reviewed in light of the prior art cited by the Examiner, and the rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner rejected claim 40 for the following reason.

Finn discloses the invention substantially as claimed, including a network system having a server, the method comprising the steps of:

transferring by the server a terminal address interrogating request including a first address to a plurality of terminals (LE server forwards LE_ARP_REQUEST);

receiving by the server an answer including a second address corresponding to the first address from one of the

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plurality of terminals   (LE Client response to LE serve
LE_ARP_REQUEST with a LE_ARP_REPLY).

However, Finn does not explicitly teach registering in
the server a corresponding relationship between the first
address and the second address.

Mori teaches registering in an address translation
table of an address server a mapping of network address and
port address. It would have been obvious to one of
ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of
the invention to combine the teachings of Finn and Mori to
register the relationship between the first address and the
second address in a address server because it would support
address translation for uses without generating undesired
overhead traffic.

The above was the gist of the Examiner's comments.
However, all pending claims are respectfully believed to be
allowable as amended in the previously filed Amendment
because the two references (Finn & Mori) cannot be combined
in the manner that the Examiner suggests, as explained
below.

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(a) Finn discloses LE_ARP_REQUEST: Sent by an LE Client to determine the ATM address associated with a given MAC address or Route Designator. LE_ARP_REPLY: Sent by the LE Server or an LE Client in response to an LE_ARP_REQUEST to provide the information requested.

(b) Mori discloses that "When a user terminal is connected to a line port of a serving network node, it sends a registration packet to the serving network node, containing the network address of the requesting terminal." (col.7, lines 7—10).

(c) Namely, Finn teaches that a server receives a REPLY packet from a client in response to a request packet sent from the server. On the contrary, Mori teaches that a serving network node receives a REQUEST packet from a requesting terminal when a user terminal is connected to a line port of the serving network node.

The above mentioned items, the REPLY packet and the REQUEST packet, are clearly contradictory to each other. Thus, the two references teach away from each other and they cannot be combined as the Examiner stated.
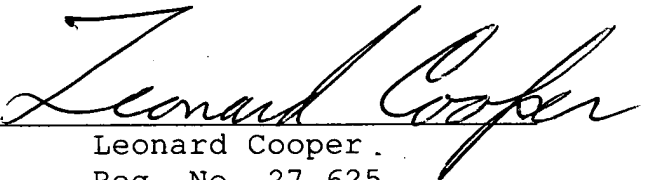
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For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the independent claims and those claims dependent therefrom are not made obvious by the combination of prior art suggested by the Examiner, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 as inappropriate in this case.

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. It is respectfully believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. The comments above raise no new issues nor require additional searching on the part of the Examiner. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account No. 08—1634.

Respectfully submitted,

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